THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATINOS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) 37 new telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened in Tamil Nadu Telecommunication Circle in the year 1986 subject to availability of exchange units and requisite demand.

(b) The names and capacity of exchanges proposed to be opend are:

1. Tuticorin Project 200 lines MAX-II

2. Cuddalore Old Town 360 lines Manual

The remaining 35 exchanges are of 25 lines capacity each for which the places are yet to be identified.

(c) The proposals under examination for opening new telephone exchanges are:

1. Cuddalore Sipcot	— 300 lines
2. Mariamalainagar	— 300 lines
3. Gummidipoondi Sipcot	— 500 lines

Construction of Building for Raghunathpur post office

556. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have acquired land at Raghunathpur, District Siwan Bihar, for the construction of Post Office building;

(b) whether the land is laying vacant for the last six years, if so, what are the reasons that the building has not been constructed as yet at the site;

(c) whether Government propose to construct the building at the earliest; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. However, there is a case pending in Siwan Court in respect of this land due to passing of road as a result of which the question of construction of building does not arise at this stage.

Steep rice in the drug prices

557. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the article "In Harms Way" in Illustrated Weekly dated 13th April, 1986;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the prices of Dexorange, Stametil Lynoral, Aquaviron B-12, Digiplex, Antreny] and various other medicines have gone up from 85 per cent to 614 per cent from June 1981 to September, 1985, and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for such high increase in prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The formulations specifically referred to are price decontrolled formulations and manufacturers are free to fix their own prices. As regards price controlled formulations, the increases in prices are allowed based on increases in the input costs based on the recommendations of an expert body, namely, Bureau of Industrial Costs and prices.

Formulations of ex-FERA drug companies

558. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) names of the formulations for which ex-FERA drug companies have